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SECRET

(When Filled In)

NPIC REGISTRY

FILE INFO

REPRODUCTION PROHIBITED

FEB 1 10 39 AM '73

ACTION PI	1	IAS	6	IAS	11		16
	2	IAS	7	FILE	12		17
IAS	3	IAS	8		13		18
	4	IAS	9		14		19
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OUT:75732 (CIA/IAS/RSD/SPB)

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811519Z FEB 73 STAFF

CITE NPIC 4332

PRIORITY

INFO DIRECTOR.

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THIS IS FROM

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1. ANALYSIS OF OLYMPIC MEET REVEALS THE START OF A NEW CHINESE ROAD CONSTRUCTION PROJECT AND THE EXTENSION OF PREVIOUSLY STARTED ROAD CONSTRUCTION IN NORTHWEST LAOS.

2. THE NEW ROAD CONSTRUCTION EXTENDS 11 KILOMETERS ALONG THE MAP DESIGNATED ROUTE 33 ALIGNMENT NORTHWEST FROM ROUTE 46 AT MUONG HOUN. THE FIRST 4 KILOMETERS NORTHWEST OF MUONG HOUN ARE MOTORABLE. THIS 4 KILOMETER SEGMENT HAD BEEN PREVIOUSLY CONSTRUCTED AND USED AS AN ACCESS ROAD TO AAA SITES. THE OTHER 7 KILOMETERS OF CONSTRUCTION CONSIST OF VEGETATION CLEARING AND INITIAL GRADING EXTENDING TO

3. ROUTE 46 CONSTRUCTION HAS BEEN EXTENDED TO THE NORTH EDGE OF PAK BENG AND CONSISTS OF EXTENSIVE MECHANIZED GRADING. A PREVIOUSLY IDENTIFIED SURVEY TRACE AT THE WEST EDGE OF PAK BENG IS BEING WIDENED BY CLEARING THE VEGETATION. NO OTHER CLEARING ACTIVITY IS OBSERVED EAST OR WEST OF PAK BENG.

4. ROAD CONSTRUCTION ALONG THE ROUTE 3 ALIGNMENT SOUTHWEST FROM NAM THA HAS BEEN EXTENDED AN ADDITIONAL 26 KMS SINCE 6 DECEMBER 1972 TO THE VICINITY OF THE AIR STRIP AT VIEN POU KHA

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THIS CONSTRUCTION WAS OBSERVED INTERMITTENTLY THROUGH TREE CANOPY AND CONSISTS OF VEGETATION CLEARING AND GRADING. THE MOTORABLE LIMIT COULD NOT BE DETERMINED. INTERPRETATION WAS FURTHER LIMITED BY A CAMERA MALFUNCTION.

PHOTO REFERENCE:

OLYMPIC MEET

MAP REFERENCES:

AMS MAP SERIES L7015, SHEET 5248 IV, EDITION 1, SHEET 5249 II, EDITION 1; AND SHEETS 5250 I, II, IV. E2 IMPDET VN-SISM

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